

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING SYSTEM  
CONFIGURATION ACROSS A NETWORK

ABSTRACT

A system and method are provided for determining whether to provide a  
5 software program update to one of a plurality of client processors. Each client processor  
has a copy of at least one of a plurality of client software programs. A respective set of  
system configuration attributes are sent from each one of the plurality of client processors  
and stored in an administration server processor. The system configuration attributes  
indicate whether a copy of any of the client software programs may be stored in the one  
10 client processor. Each set of system configuration attributes is transmitted to a selection  
server processor. A respective update recognizer program and software program update  
corresponding to each respective one of the plurality of client software programs are sent  
from the selection server processor to the administration server processor. Each client  
processor executes at least one of the update recognizer programs to issue a notification  
15 indicating whether the corresponding software program update is applicable to the copy  
of the client software program in that client processor. The administration server  
processor receives the respective notification from each client processor and transmits the  
software program update to the client processors for which the software program update  
is applicable.

DRAFT EDITION 4 02/2000